

The District 3 Slate

January 2000

County Supervisor Pam Slater

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don't put it down a storm drain."
-- Supervisor Pam Slater



County Supervisor
Pam Slater

Dear Friend:

Congratulations! We safely crossed the threshold into a new year, a new century and a new millenium.

As we enter into the next era of County government, it's encouraging to realize we begin on a solid footing.

Our financial condition is strong, with a balanced budget and nearly \$300 million in total reserves. Our neighborhoods and communities are safer. We are finding innovative ways for citizens to use County services. Through numerous County programs, citizens are becoming more healthy and productive, as more and more people end the cycle of substance abuse, and more people move from welfare to work.

In this edition of *The District 3 Slate*, you can read about some of the accomplishments I am most proud of during 1999. It was a stellar year. I look forward to serving you in 2000 as your County Supervisor.

Pam Slater

DNA testing shows path to cleaner beaches

When Joe and Josephine Tourist arrive from the frozen tundra of Wisconsin and step on a San Diego beach, the last thing they want to see is a "Beach Closed" sign.

It's one of the last things Supervisor Pam Slater wants to see as well, and results from a Slater-initiated study now can help officials pinpoint the source of pollution on our beaches.

Slater, who represents much of San Diego's pristine coastline as Third District Supervisor, has made cleaner oceans and beaches a top priority.

"It is an absolute shame that in a region that boasts the finest beaches in the world we are forced to close certain beaches because of contamination from bacteria," Slater said.

"Last year, I proposed that the



Beach team: Supervisor Pam Slater, center, and San Diego City Councilmen Harry Mathis (left) and Byron Wear work for cleaner beaches.

county work with the City of San Diego and identify pollution sources at four local beaches -- Avenida de la Playa, Windansea, Tourmaline Surf Park and Dog Beach," she said.

The study showed that humans were responsible for the

highest percentage of results during dry weather, but dog and bird results were the most abundant during wet weather conditions.

"Every one must remember that our storm drains run directly

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Slater turns gavel over, ends term as Chair

The County of San Diego ended the 20th Century on a high note, said Supervisor Pam Slater, as she wrapped up her term as the 1999 Chairwoman of the Board of Supervisors.

"I am proud to have been chairwoman and to have been part of the Board's accomplishments," Slater said.

Before she officially handed the gavel over to Supervisor

Dianne Jacob, the Board's new Chairwoman for 2000, Slater briefly highlighted a few of the accomplishments she was most proud of during her tenure as Chairwoman:

"Traffic is a major concern for the public, so I made certain that a developer in my district gave \$17.2 million to make improvements to Interstate 15, before their project can be built.

"As the Board's representative on SANDAG, I helped to gain an extra \$77 million in federal money to make improvements to I-15 and I-5.

"Supervisor Roberts and I made sure that a \$20 million contribution from the County to finish State Route 56 was not wasted -- the contract specifically stated that no county money can be spent on anything

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The staff of Supervisor Pam Slater

John Weil, Chief of Staff

Trish Boaz (Land Use); Robert Duckett (Criminal Justice);

Jim Gonsalves (Housing); Blair Hoppe (Health and Social Services);

Ron Kelley (Budget & Finances); Anne-Marie Jewel (Scheduling)

Frances Porter (Receptionist)

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Chair: Slater

other than laying pavement. No construction, no money.

"Applying the principles of regional cooperation, I established a partnership with San Diego City Councilwoman Valerie Stallings and the Humane Society to build a new Central Animal shelter.

"Again showing regional cooperation, Supervisor Greg Cox and I represented the Board on the North Embarcadero Alliance. This year, the Board signed a final agreement between the County, the Port District, the City of San Diego, CCDC and the Navy to revitalize the North Embarcadero.

"Along with the San Diego Domestic Violence Council, I formed a task force to work toward stopping the epidemic of domestic violence.

"I put more money into the protection and enhancement of our region's lagoons and parks than any other Third District Supervisor in history.

"I had legislation passed to develop an ocean illness prevention program. This started DNA testing to locate the precise source of dumping and other pollution to clean up our beaches.

"I put more money into improving parks and libraries in my district than any other Third

Gavel:
Supervisor Pam Slater hands the gavel to Dianne Jacob, the Board's Chairwoman for 2000.



District Supervisor in the county's history.

"I continued the success of the Multiple Species Conservation Plan that protects 172,000 acres of open space.

"And to keep the public safe, especially our children, I sponsored the Matthew Checchi Public Safety Law to build family restrooms at all county parks."

Y2K bug fails to bite county

The highly heralded Y2K bug arrived uneventfully at the County of San Diego, as all computer and communications systems continued to operate as normal.

"We're pleased that our preparation paid off," said Supervisor Pam Slater.

County staff reported only one minor problem, which affected the Sheriff's Department's booking system. The problem was quickly repaired.

County flips switch and private alliance takes over technology

The "e-county" is on its way.

A team of private companies on December 13 officially took over the responsibility for the County's computers, communications and information technology services.

The \$644 million, seven-year contract will revamp the County's computer and telephone systems, with the goal of putting residents online instead of in line.

"This action established San

Diego County as a leader in providing top-notch, cost-effective services," said Supervisor Pam Slater. "I look forward to when residents will be able to reserve a campsite, look up a restaurant inspection report or request a copy of a birth certificate from their home computers."

The County will partner with Computer Sciences Corp. CSC will lead a team that includes San Diego-based SAIC, Pacific Bell and Lucent Technologies.

Beach: Study shows sources

into the ocean. The drains are not connected to the sewage system," said Supervisor Pam Slater. "So, if you don't want to swim in it later, don't put it down a storm drain."

Slater brought her proposal forward because runoff from our storm drains has been shown to contain elevated levels of bacteria that may increase the health risk associated with swimming in or near these discharges.

County staff recommended more public education, the continued use of diversion systems during dry weather, and more specific tests to further characterize the sources of human fecal bacteria.

"This increased our level of understanding of potential sources of contamination," Slater said. "It shows how urban runoff can affect our use of the coastal environment."

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